

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraphs [0003] and [0016] with the following paragraphs rewritten in amendment format:

[0003] Motor vehicles, during movement or when they are standing still with the motor running, are subject to vibrations that can be transmitted to the steering column, and from there, to the steering wheel. Any writing or marking on the steering wheel can then become illegible. To counteract such steering wheel vibrations and to improve riding comfort, vibration absorbers are provided either directly on the steering column or in the airbag housing on the steering wheel. The gas generator, among other[[s]] things, is also used as vibration-absorbing mass for the damping of steering wheel vibrations. A problem that needs to be overcome in such cases involves the connection between the gas generator and the airbag housing which in turn is connected with the steering column. A number of proposals have been made to solve this problem.

[0016] Fig. 1 shows a longitudinal cross-section of a gas generator 1 resting in an insert 2. The insert 2 consists of a conical rubber membrane 3 which, at an edge 4 directed toward the gas generator 1, is provided with a ring intended as a receiving element 5 for the gas generator 1. At an edge 6 that faces the airbag housing, not shown in greater detail, the rubber membrane is provided with a surrounding metallic holding sheet 7 for connection to the airbag housing. The ring or the receiving element 5 is pressed onto the gas generator so that a reliable frictional connection is created between the two parts. Alternatively, ring or receiving element 5 is shrunk onto the gas generator to

create the frictional connection. The edge 6 of the rubber membrane 3 protrudes slightly over the outer surface 8 of metallic holding sheet 7 so that when the sheet 7 is screwed onto a corresponding flange of the airbag housing, the edge of the rubber membrane can be used for sealing purposes and, at the same time, can act as vibration restriction for the vibration-absorbing mass.